

Health Affairs Update

Defense Science Board
Task Force on
Quarantining Guidance
for SARS Epidemic

Quarantine



- Quarantine can have a massive impact on DoD's ability to carry out operations
- Quarantine of forces in an operational area
 - Restriction of Movement
 - Host nation impact
- Quarantine of city/region near a DoD installation

SARS Task Force



- Formed on July 11, 2003 at direction of SECDEF
- Terms of Reference-Review and Assess:
 - Existing doctrine and processes for quarantine policy
 - Required cooperation (DoD, non-DoD, non-US)
 - Capacity of local commanders
 - Surveil and establish quarantine need, way and means
 - Methods, technologies, and legal doctrine for safe transport and restriction of movement
 - Sample scenarios
 - Coordination and allocation of DoD/non-DoD resources
 - Identify and track potentially SARS-exposed

SARS Task Force



Primary Information Sources

- National SARS CONPLAN
- DoD Directive 6200.3, Emergency Health Powers on Military Installations
 - Policy
 - Execution
- Central and Pacific Command capabilities
- DoD & civilian public health interface
- Iraqi health/public health capabilities
- CDC Lessons Learned

United States Government Interagency SARS Concept of Operations Plan

- Outlines organized and unified capacity for timely, coordinated response by Federal agencies
- Uses a threat level-based approach
- Coordination document for interagency and intergovernmental organizations
 - A diagram – Not a blue print
 - Requires augmentation by specific federal, state and/or local operation procedures

DoD Directive 6200.3



- Establishes DoD policy under applicable law
 - Protect installations and personnel in the event of a public health emergency
- Commander can declare a public health emergency on one or military installations under his/her command
 - Biowarfare or terrorism, or communicable disease epidemic
- Commander designates Public Health Emergency Officer (PHEO)
 - Close coordination with higher command/local public health/CDC/host nation/others

SARS Task Force Status



- Interim Report to SECDEF – May 2004
- Continued monitoring of DoD Directive compliance
- Review of public health emergency exercises
- Review of DoD SARS & public health emergency medical response plans
- Final report – late 2004